

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend claim 1 as indicated in the following list of pending claims:

PENDING CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A stent assembly for maintaining the patency of a body lumen comprising an expandable stent with a cylindrical jacket encircling the stent and secured thereto formed of biocompatible, non-thrombogenic material which has a thinned, ~~impervious~~ layer of heterologous tissue less than 0.45 mm thick that is impervious so as to prevent tissue ingrowth.
2. (Previously presented): The stent assembly of claim 45 wherein the heterologous tissue is selected from the group consisting of pericardium, aortic leaflet, veins, and arteries and wherein the removed outer layer is of the same type of tissue as the thinned layer of tissue.
3. (Previously presented): The stent assembly of claim 47, wherein the pericardium is selected from the group consisting of bovine pericardium and porcine pericardium.
4. (Previously presented): The stent assembly of claim 3, wherein the pericardium is bovine pericardium with cross-linked collagen.
5. (Original): The stent assembly of claim 1 including at least one therapeutic or diagnostic agent releasably contained in the cylindrical jacket.
6. (Original): The stent assembly of claim 1 wherein the material is expandable.

7. (Original): The stent assembly of claim 1 wherein the stent comprises a metallic tubular member.

8. (Original): The stent assembly of claim 1 wherein the cylindrical jacket is on an exterior surface of the stent.

9. (Previously presented) The stent assembly of claim 1 wherein the cylindrical jacket is disposed within the stent and secured to an interior surface of the stent.

10. (Withdrawn) A method for maintaining the patency of a body lumen comprising the steps of:

a) mounting on a delivery catheter a stent assembly comprising a tubular expandable stent with a cylindrical jacket formed of biocompatible, non-thrombogenic expandable material, the cylindrical jacket comprising a thinned layer of tissue having a surface formed from removal of an outer layer of the tissue;

b) advancing the delivery catheter through the body lumen until the stent assembly is positioned at a desired location; and

d) withdrawing the delivery catheter.

11. (Withdrawn): A cylindrical jacket formed of a thin layer of heterologous tissue which is less than 0.45 mm thick and which is configured to fit over a portion of an intraluminal stent.

12. (Withdrawn) The cylindrical jacket of claim 11 having a length of about 4 to about 200 mm.

13. (Withdrawn) The cylindrical jacket of claim 11 having a length of about 10 to about 50 mm.

14. (Withdrawn) The cylindrical jacket of claim 11 having a diameter of about 1.5 to about 60 mm.

15. (Withdrawn) The cylindrical jacket of claim 14 having a diameter of not greater than about 6 mm.

16. (Withdrawn) The cylindrical jacket of claim 11 having a diameter of about 2.5 to about 5 mm.

17. (Withdrawn) The cylindrical jacket of claim 11 having a thickness of about 0.05 mm to about 0.20 mm.

18. (Withdrawn) The cylindrical jacket of claim 11 having a thickness of about 0.1 mm to about 0.15 mm.

19. (Withdrawn) The cylindrical jacket of claim 11 configured to fit over an outer portion of the intraluminal stent.

20. (Withdrawn) The cylindrical jacket of claim 11 configured to cover an inner portion of the intraluminal stent.

21-28 (Cancelled)

29. (Previously presented): An expandable jacketed stent for supporting a body lumen comprising a metallic tubular member which has an outer surface, which has a first circumference for delivery and which is configured to expand from the first circumference to a second circumference larger than the first circumference for

deployment within the body lumen, and a cylindrical jacket which is formed of thinned heterologous tissue less than 0.45 mm thick, which is impervious to tissue in-growth and which encircles the outer surface of the stent in a wrapped configuration configured to unwrap as the stent expands from the first circumference to the second configuration.

30. (Previously Amended): The jacketed stent of claim 29 wherein the jacket has a circumference on the unexpanded stent larger than the first circumference of the stent, and a circumference on the expanded stent about equal to the second circumference of the stent.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a patient, comprising:

- a) providing an elongated delivery catheter having an expandable member on a distal extremity thereof;
- b) mounting onto the expandable member on the distal extremity of the delivery catheter an expandable stent having first circumference and a second expanded circumference and having a cylindrical jacket formed of biocompatible, non-thrombogenic expandable material on an outer surface of the stent, the jacket having a width about equal to the second expanded circumference of the stent;
- c) advancing at least the distal extremity of the catheter within a body lumen of the patient until the jacketed stent is disposed at a desired location within the body lumen;

d) expanding the expandable member on the distal extremity of the catheter to expand the jacketed stent mounted thereon and fix the expanded jacketed stent within the body lumen; and

e) contracting the expanded expandable member so the elongated delivery catheter can be removed from the patient.

33-34 (Cancelled)

35. (Previously Added): The stent assembly of claim 1, wherein the cylindrical jacket has a length less than a length of the stent.

36. (Previously Added): The stent assembly of claim 1, wherein the cylindrical jacket has a length greater than a length of the stent, the length of the cylindrical jacket being not more than 5% greater than the length of the stent.

37. (Previously Added): The stent assembly of claim 1, wherein the stent is expandable from an unexpanded configuration to an expanded configuration, and wherein the cylindrical jacket has a circumference on the unexpanded stent larger than a circumference of the stent in the unexpanded configuration, and a circumference on the expanded stent about equal to a circumference of the stent in the expanded configuration.

38. (Previously Added): The jacketed stent of claim 29 wherein the jacket in the wrapped configuration on the unexpanded stent is wrapped about the stent and at least a section of itself so that multiple layers of jacket are present on at least part of the unexpanded stent.

39-40 (Cancelled)

41. (Previously Added): The jacketed stent of claim 38 including at least one securing member releasably fixing the jacket in the wrapped configuration prior to expansion of the stent.

42. (Previously Added): The jacket stent of claim 29 wherein the jacket is a thinned layer of tissue having a thickness of about 0.05 mm to about 0.20 mm.

43. (Previously presented): The stent assembly of claim 1 wherein the tissue surface is a cut surface formed by removal of the outer layer of tissue.

44. (Previously Added): The stent assembly of claim 43 wherein the cut surface extends along a length of the jacket, so that the jacket has a reduced outer diameter along the length of the jacket.

45. (Previously presented) The stent assembly of claim 1 wherein the heterologous tissue has been thinned by removing at least part of an outer layer thereof.

46. (Previously Added) The cylindrical jacket of claim 11 wherein a surface thereof has been formed by removing an outer layer thereof.

47. (Previously Added) The stent assembly of claim 1 wherein the heterologous layer is impervious to tissue ingrowth.

48. (Previously Added) The stent assembly of claim 1 wherein the heterologous layer is pericardium.

49. (Previously Added) The stent assembly of claim 43 wherein the outer layer of tissue has been removed by peeling or shaving.